



# Overview of FamilySearch.org

## OBJECTIVES

1. Give an overview of **FamilySearch.org** basics.
2. Show how-to update, improve, or add to your pedigree in Family Tree.
3. Show resources in FamilySearch.org that will help you find answers to questions.

## SIGN IN / CREATE ACCOUNT (FREE)

- **Create Account:** Fill in personal information fields, then verify with your e-mail or a code sent to your phone. REMEMBER your Username and Password for future sign ins.
- **Sign In:** You must sign in to view your Family Tree and some other resources.  
Settings: Manage your account. (Account, Contact, Notifications, Preferences, etc.)  
Source Box: Stores sources when you check ☒ Add to Source Box.  
Sign Out: Close FamilySearch.org to automatically sign out, also.

## TABS

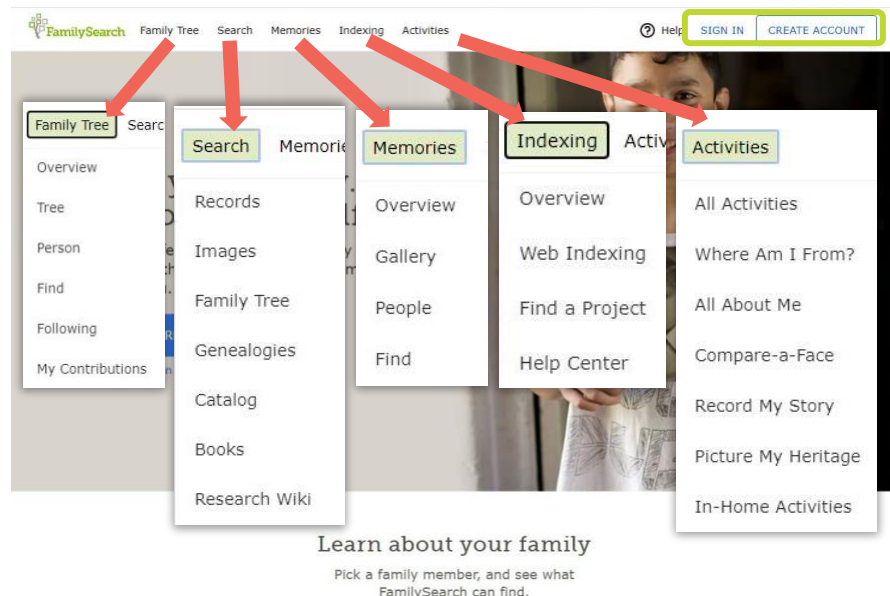
**Family Tree** - Find People on the shared Family Tree. Follow changes and view your contributions.

**Search** - Find Records from many databases.

**Memories** - Add your photos and records to FamilySearch.org.

**Indexing** - Help make records searchable.

**Activities** - Family History made fun for everyone.

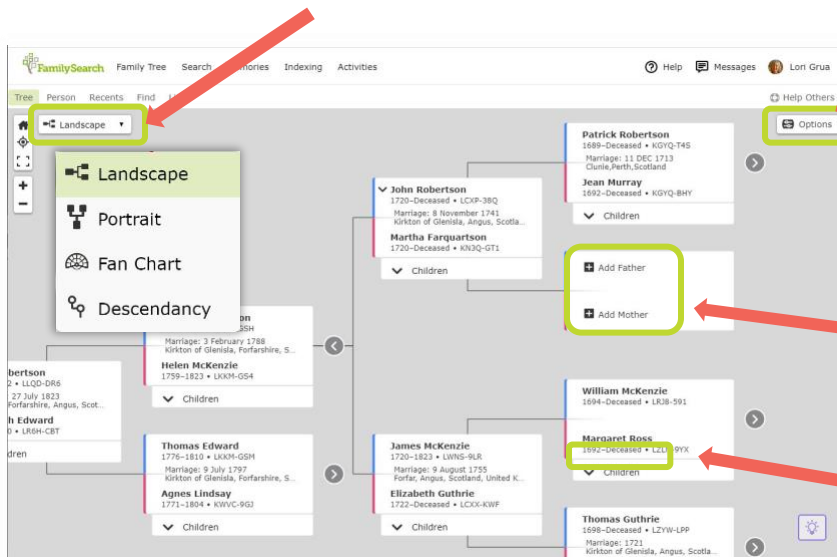


- The Family Tree is one worldwide pedigree. This allows you to collaborate with cousins and others and share a more accurate and complete family genealogy. Every person created on FamilySearch.org has a computer-generated Personal Identification (ID) Number.

## FAMILY TREE TAB

There are two main pages: The **Tree** page and the **Person** page.

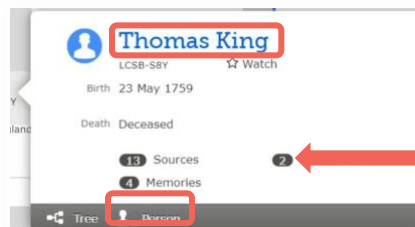
- **Tree:** Choose from 4 Pedigree views under the arrow ▼



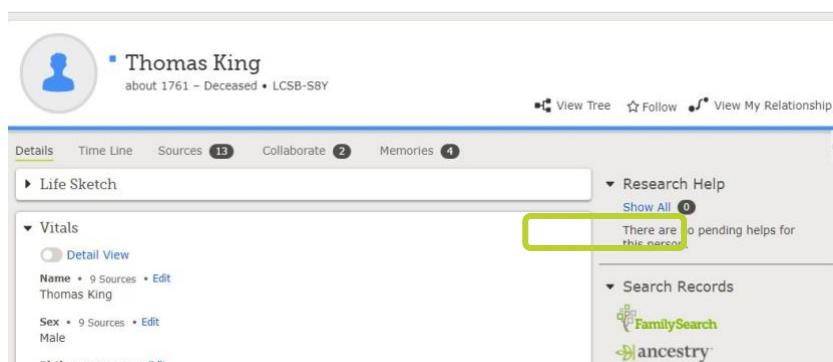
Options allows you to choose which features to show in the Tree view. Record Hints, Portraits, Data Problems, Print, etc.

Add family by selecting **+ Add Father**, **+ Add Mother** or click Children dropdown to **+ Add a Child** or view children.

- **Person:** From the Tree View, single click any ancestor and an ID Card will appear. Click on the **Name**, or **Person** at the bottom of the ID Card to open the **Person** Details page.



Or choose **Person** from the **Family Tree** Tab.



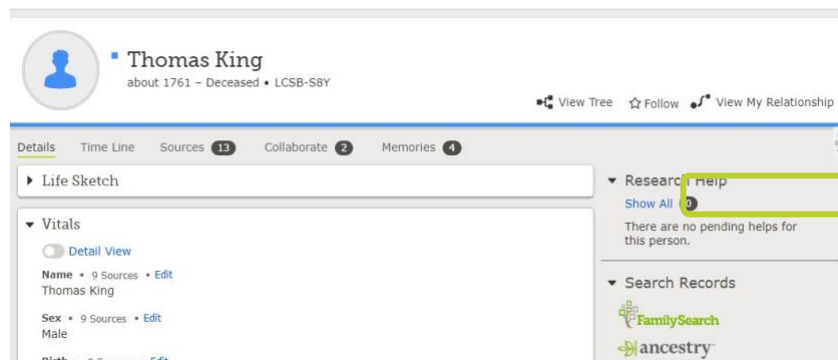
View Tree: This ancestor will be in the primary position on the pedigree chart.

Follow: To **Follow** a person click on the open star and it changes to

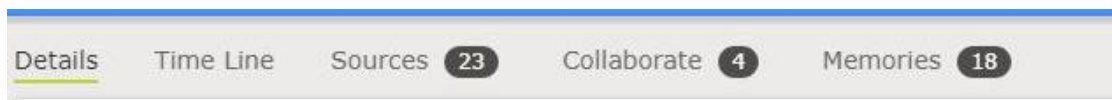
★ **Following**

When following a person, you can see changes made by other users by clicking **Following** under the Family Tree Tab.

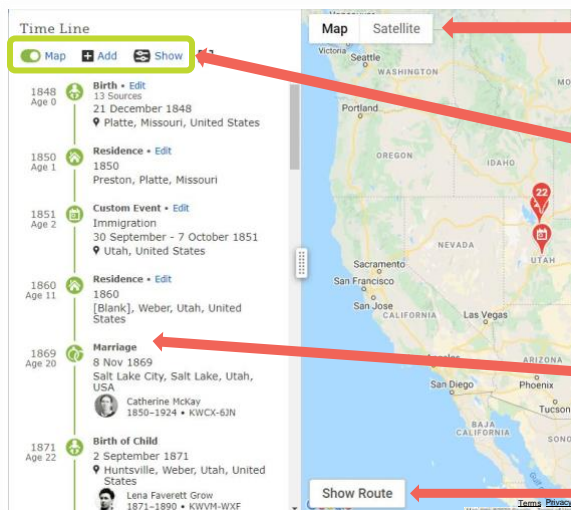
View My Relationship: Traces up to 15 generations, to show *how* you are related, or *if* you are not related and you do not share a common ancestor with this person within 15 generations.



## PERSON VIEW TABS



- Details:** Each section may be collapsed or opened with the arrow.  
Life Sketch: Click the **+** Add to enter information.  
Vitals: Click **Edit** to update any names, dates, or places. You may also **Tag** any sources related to these changes, add a Reason Statement and **SAVE**.  
Other Information: Click **+ Add Information** to receive a list of options such as Alternate Names, Events and Facts.  
Family Members: The person you are viewing will be **Bold**. The Left fields show the person as an adult with or without known **Spouses and Children**. The Right field shows the **bold** person as a child with **Parents and Siblings**. To add family members, click on **+Add Spouse**, **+Add Parent**, or **+Add Child**.
- Time Line:** The Time Line is generated from information entered in **Details**.



Choose **Satellite** view

Toggle the **Map** Button to view the map with locators and the number of events there.

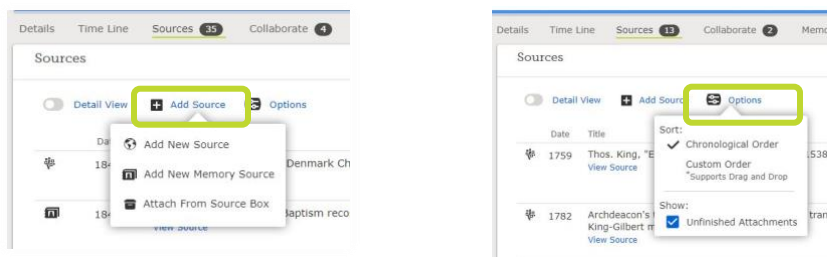
**+ Add** more events on the Timeline. This information will be updated on the person's Detail page.

**Show** which events and relationships you want to view, including Historical Events.

**Icons** show Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, etc. Also see **Date** and **Age** of the Person for each **Event**.

**Show Route** of migration.

- **Sources:** You can **Add Sources** with URL, Images, Citations, and Descriptions. **Options** allows you to sort Sources by **Chronological** or **Custom Order**. Also, choose to show **Unfinished Attachments** to attach the source to other people.



- **Collaborate:** Share Notes and Discussions
- **Memories:** View or upload: photos, documents, etc. to this ancestor.

## PERSON VIEW TABS (continued)

### RIGHT SIDEBAR on Person View

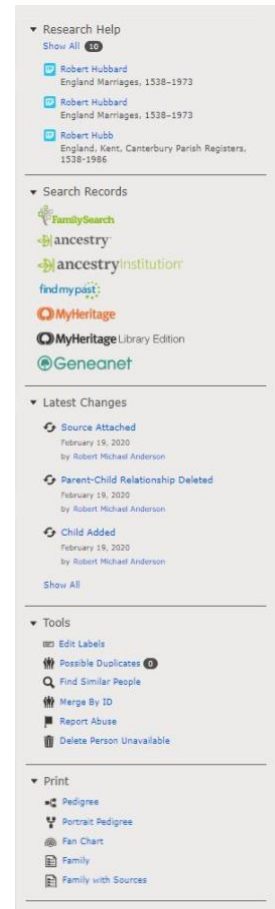
Research Help: View and update Possible Duplicates, Record Hints, Data Errors, and Research Strategy.

Search Records: Search indexed records on FamilySearch.org, Ancestry, Findmypast, MyHeritage, Geneanet and Filae.

Latest Changes: See all changes made to a person and by whom, by selecting **Show All**.

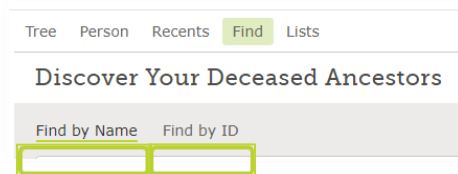
Tools: Find Possible Duplicates, Find Similar People, Merge by ID, Report Abuse, Delete Person (when available)

Print: Print Pedigree Charts, Portrait Pedigree, Fan Charts, Family Group sheets with or without Sources.

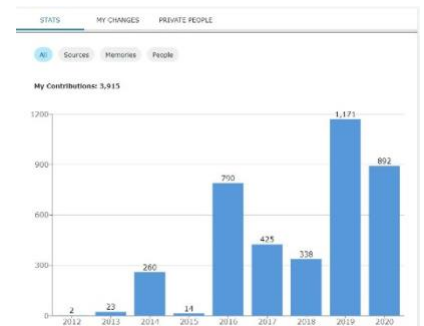


## FAMILY TREE TAB (continued)

- **FIND**: Discover your deceased ancestors in FamilySearch.org database. **Find by Name**, dates, locations, parents, etc. or **Find by ID** number.



- **FOLLOWING**: When you click on the star to Follow a person, the star turns black and you can view changes made to people you are Following.
- **MY CONTRIBUTIONS**: View your Stats by year to see additions you have contributed to Sources, Memories, and People.



## SEARCH TAB

**Records** There are various ways to search for Historical Records

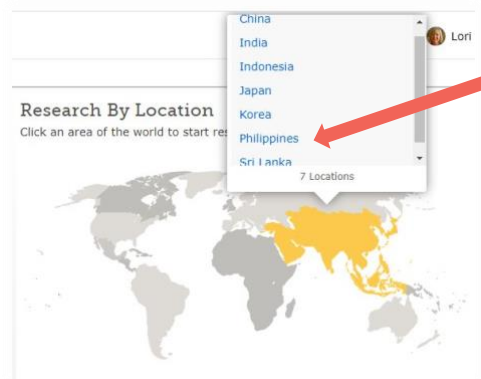
The screenshot shows the Ancestry.com search interface. A red arrow points to the 'Records' tab in the top navigation bar. Three yellow boxes highlight specific search options: 'Search Historical Records' (with a subtext 'Search for a deceased ancestor in historical records to uncover vital information from their life.'), 'Research By Location' (with a subtext 'Click an area of the world to start researching in a specific location.' and a world map), and 'Find a Collection' (with a subtext 'Browse by country to find a collection? Find it here.' and a 'Collection Title' input field). The main search area includes sections for 'Deceased Ancestor's Information' (First Names, Last Names), 'Search with a life event' (Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, Any), 'Search with a relationship' (Spouse, Father, Mother, Other Person), and 'Restrict records by' (Location, Type, Batch Number, Film Number, Country, State or Province). There are also checkboxes for 'Match all terms exactly' and buttons for 'Search' and 'Reset'.

**Search Historical Records** Searches top tier, Indexed records.

Restrict (/filter) records by:

- First (and middle) **Names**. Last Names, Up to two alternate names, maiden names, etc.
- **Life Event**: Birth, Marriage, Residence, Death, Any place by a date range.
- **Relationship**: Spouse, Father, Mother, Other Person. (You may leave previous names of the primary ancestor blank).
- Specific **Location** (for example: United Kingdom and Ireland).
- Record **Type**: Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Death, Census, Immigration and Naturalization, Military, Probate, etc.
- **Batch Number**: Indexes are compiled and assigned a batch number. This is an alphabetical surname listing of the specific record. These indexes can be complete or partial.
- **Film Number**: Indexes are compiled and assigned a film number (Film-Microfilm numbers and/or DGS-Digital film number). This is an alphabetical surname listing of the record or records on a microfilm. These indexes can be complete or partial.
- **Country, State, or Province**.

**Research By Location:** Click an area of the world to research a specific location.



Select a Country or State to research.  
Find additional resources and records.

- **Learning Courses**
- **FamilySearch Wiki page**
- **Current Indexing Projects**
- **Indexed Historical Records**
- **Image Only Historical Records**
- **Catalog**

Philippines Welcome to our Philippines research page. We've brought together tools to help you with your research in Philippines.

### Learning Courses

We have 7 learning courses to help you do your family history research in Philippines.

- Philippines Research With the Wiki Part 6 of 7: Reading Philippines Records in Spanish and Latin 4:53
- Philippines Research With the Wiki Part 4 of 7: Finding a Philippines Birth or Marriage Record 5:56

[See all Philippines courses in Learning Center](#)

### FamilySearch Wiki

[View Wiki for Philippines](#)

### Current Indexing Projects

Volunteers are needed to help make records from Philippines searchable. We currently have 1 indexing projects for Philippines you can help with today.

Philippines, Camarines Sur, Caceres—Registros Parroquiales, 1716–1977 (Parte B)

[View Project Details](#)

Language: Spanish

Indexed 16%

Reviewed 7%

[See other Indexing Projects for Philippines](#)

### Indexed Historical Records

Search collections of records for documents about your ancestors. You can filter which collections you would like to search within.

**Deceased Ancestor's Information**

First Names  Last Names

**Search with a life event:**

Birth | Marriage | Residence | Death | Any

Birthplace  Birth Year (Range)  From  To

**Search with a relationship:**

Spouse | Father | Mother | Other Person

**Restrict records by:**

Location | Type | Batch Number | Film Number

Country  State or Province

Philippines

☐ Match all terms exactly

[Search](#) [Reset](#)

**Filter by Collection:** Showing Top 5 - [Show All 8](#)

| Title                                                                         | Records   | Last Updated |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines Births and Baptisms, 1642-1994           | 286,611   | Feb 20, 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines Civil Registration (Local), 1888-1986    | 90,022    | Aug 28, 2017 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines Civil Registration (National), 1940-1964 | 335,953   | Jun 13, 2019 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines Deaths and Burials, 1726-1957            | 8,007,420 | Feb 16, 2020 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philippines Marriages, 1723-1957                     | 3,829,018 | Feb 15, 2020 |

[Show All 8](#)

### Image-Only Historical Records

Can't find records for your ancestors when you search? Try our collections that haven't been indexed yet. Select a collection to start browsing the images.

**Birth, Marriage, and Death:** Showing Top 5 - [Show](#) Images Last Updated [All 8](#)

|                                                               |         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Philippines Civil Registration (Archives Division), 1902-1945 | 185,883 | Nov 4, 2015  |
| Philippines Civil Registration (Church Records), 1700-1900    | 106,870 | Jul 14, 2015 |

**Find a Collection**



- **Find a Collection:** to research a specific record collection enter the name of the collection in the Title field. (i.e: "United States Census", "Revolutionary War", etc.)
- **Browse All Published Collections:** Click this link to see all the record collections. Apply filters to narrow your search by Title, Place, Date and Collections group.



### Find a Collection

Researching within a specific collection? Find it here.

Collection Title

[Browse All Published Collections](#)

| Filter by Collection Title                                 |       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Collection Title                                           |       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Show only collections with images |       |
| <b>Place</b>                                               |       |
| ▶ Africa                                                   | 38    |
| ▶ Asia & Middle East                                       | 58    |
| ▶ Australia & New Zealand                                  | 45    |
| ▶ Canada                                                   | 101   |
| ▶ Caribbean and Central America                            | 75    |
| ▶ Continental Europe                                       | 625   |
| ▶ Mexico                                                   | 66    |
| ▶ Other                                                    | 8     |
| ▶ Pacific Islands                                          | 14    |
| ▶ South America                                            | 125   |
| ▶ United Kingdom and Ireland                               | 190   |
| ▶ United States of America                                 | 1,408 |
| <b>Date</b>                                                |       |
| Pre 1700                                                   | 503   |
| 1700 - 1749                                                | 625   |
| 1750 - 1799                                                | 841   |
| 1800 - 1849                                                | 1,343 |
| 1850 - 1899                                                | 2,120 |
| 1900 - 1949                                                | 2,137 |
| 1950 to present                                            | 1,105 |
| <b>Collections</b>                                         |       |
| Birth, Marriage, & Death                                   | 1,575 |
| Census & Lists                                             | 281   |
| Compiled Genealogies                                       | 3     |
| Directories                                                | 12    |
| Ethnicity                                                  | 13    |
| Migration & Naturalization                                 | 244   |
| Military                                                   | 237   |
| Miscellaneous                                              | 131   |
| Newspapers                                                 | 1     |
| Probate & Court                                            | 255   |
| Story                                                      | 1     |

| Historic         |  |
|------------------|--|
| Showing 1-100 of |  |
| <b>Title</b>     |  |
| Alabama Birt     |  |
| Alabama Civi     |  |
| Alabama Civi     |  |
| Alabama Col      |  |
| Alabama Col      |  |
| Alabama Del      |  |
| Alabama Del      |  |
| Alabama Est      |  |
| Alabama Mai      |  |
| Alabama Pro      |  |
| Alabama Sta      |  |
| Alabama Sta      |  |
| Alabama, Ce      |  |
| Alabama, Ch      |  |
| Alabama, Co      |  |
| Alabama, Co      |  |
| Alabama, Fri     |  |
| Alabama, Fri     |  |
| Alabama, Jel     |  |
| Alabama, Ma      |  |
| Alabama, Mc      |  |
| Alabama, So      |  |
| Alabama, Su      |  |
| Alabama, Wc      |  |

## Images

Family Tree Search Resources Indexing Activities

Help Messages

### Explore Historical Images

Search groups of images in the world's largest collection of historical documents, with over 4,043,391,688 images and counting. View the most recently added images.

Place

Show More Search Options

Search Images Group

Why can't I search names?

Explore Historical Images. FamilySearch.org is now adding procured records from worldwide locations for online access in 24 hours! (This process used to take more than 8 months.)

Use a Simple or Advanced Search to find groups of imaged records in the world's largest collection of historical documents, with over **4 Billion images** and counting.

## Family Tree

This is same option as **Find**, used to locate **A Person** already in Family Tree on the FamilySearch.org database.



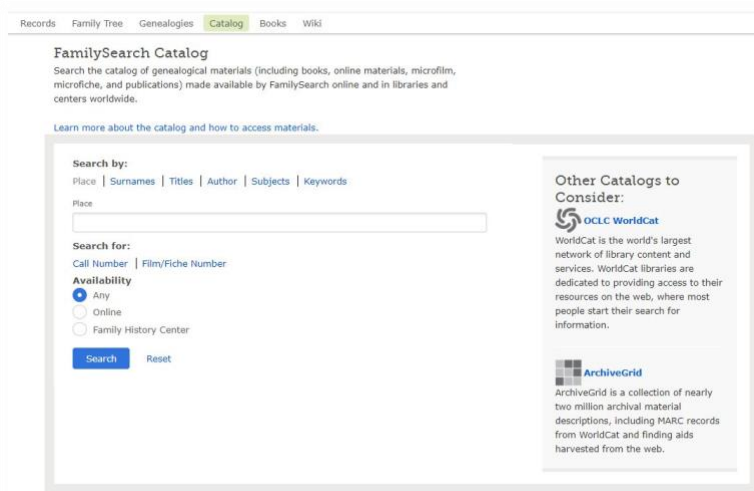
## Genealogies

View other Genealogies, which may or may not be included on FamilySearch Family Tree from:

- Ancestral File
- Pedigree Resource File, and
- Other patron or organization submitted trees and projects (Community Trees).

## Catalog

The Catalog is a collection of FamilySearch.org holdings and other Library Catalogs.



The screenshot shows the FamilySearch Catalog search page. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Records, Family Tree, Genealogies, Catalog (selected), Books, and Wiki. Below the tabs, the page title is "FamilySearch Catalog" with a subtitle: "Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide." A link "Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials." is provided. The search section is titled "Search by:" and includes tabs for "Place", "Surnames", "Titles", "Author", "Subjects", and "Keywords". The "Place" tab is selected, showing a text input field. Below this, the "Search for:" section has tabs for "Call Number" and "Film/Fiche Number". The "Availability" section has three radio buttons: "Any" (selected), "Online", and "Family History Center". There are "Search" and "Reset" buttons. To the right, there is a section titled "Other Catalogs to Consider:" featuring "OCLC WorldCat" and "ArchiveGrid" with brief descriptions of each.

Filter searches by one or more field: Places, Surnames, Title, Author, Subjects, and/or Keywords.

Search by (Family History Library) Call Number, and Fiche / Film Number.

Availability of collections Online, at a Family History Center or Any.

Use the links to other Major Library catalogs: OCLC WorldCat, Archive Grid.

## Books



Family History Books is a collection of more than 200,000 digitized genealogy and family history publications from the archives of some of the most important family history libraries in the world. The collection includes family histories, county and local histories, genealogy magazines and how-to books, gazetteers, and medieval histories and pedigrees.

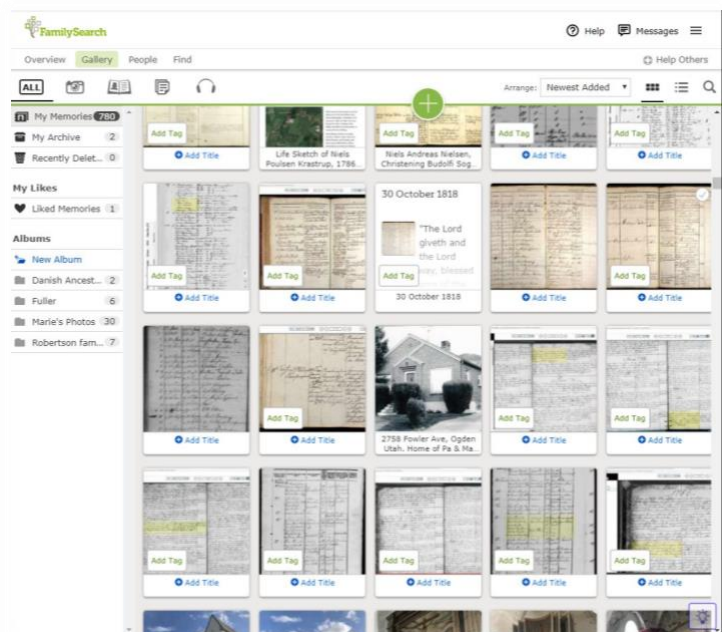
## Research Wiki

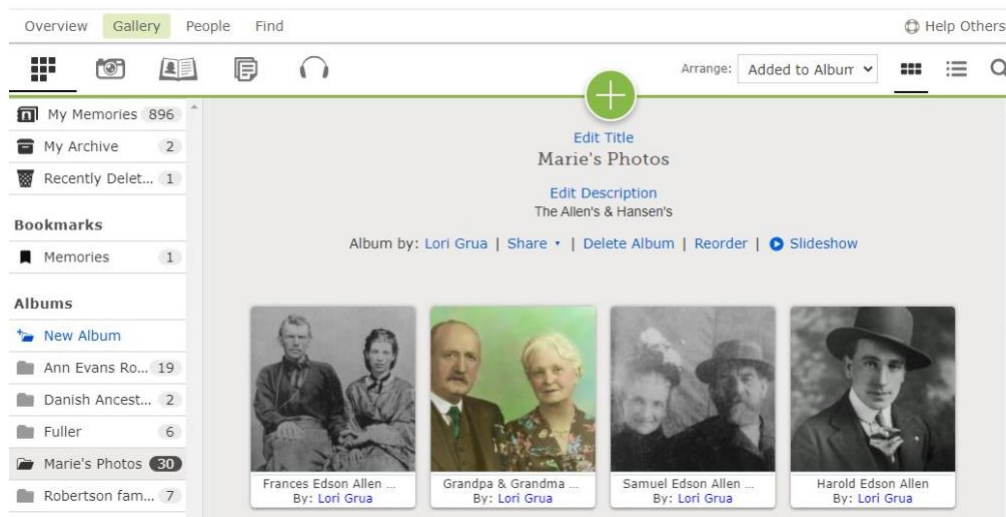
Search by Place or Topic. Browse more than 93,000 articles containing genealogical, and family history resources. Find links to websites, and record collections, by place and category. Find Guided Research and information like boundary changes, Local Archives, etc.



## MEMORIES TAB

- **Gallery** is the collection of all Memories you have contributed. By clicking the **+ Button** you can **Add** and Upload Photos, Stories, Documents, and Audio recordings to your Gallery
- **Title** Memories and add Data, Topic Tags, Event Dates, Places, and Descriptions.
- **Tag** the Memory to the Person Page Memories of anyone in FamilySearch.org.
- See memories others have contributed under **People**.
- Add Audio recordings and Stories to Photos.
- Add up to 10 Photos to a Story.
- You may organize your pictures by using the **Album** tab. After creating a New Album, select that Album to Edit the Title, Description, Delete, Reorder or Create a slideshow to share.





- Documents may be added to a Person's Memories and then the image attached to a source.
- Stories will endear the hearts of others to these family members.
- **Find** will allow you to search for Photos, Stories and Documents

## INDEXING TAB

- Volunteer by Indexing records for a computer searchable index. Help others find records faster and more easily.
- See Overview to find a Project from beginning to intermediate in many languages.
- Try a Guided Tour
- Open a Batch to try indexing for two weeks. Anything not completed will be shared with another indexer.
- Track your indexing projects. Find Resources and Get Help.

## ACTIVITIES TAB

In-home and online activities designed for the whole family to have fun discovering family history in a whole new way!

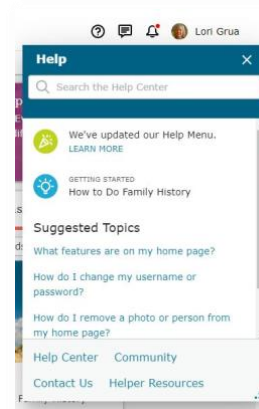


## ? HELP

The Help Menu has recently been updated to display relevant topics associated with the page you are currently viewing.

**Search the Help Center** Ask a question or type a keyword topic in the Search Box to find short articles with answers your questions.

- **Suggested Topics** will automatically generate based on the page you are viewing when you click the help button.
- **Getting Started:** Suggestions on getting started.
- **Help Center:** Choose a category for more information about Family Tree, Memories, Search, Indexing, FamilySearch Account, Learning Center, Family History Center, Research Wiki, Mobile Apps Partners and DNA.
- **Contact Us:** Find Local Help, locate a Family History Center nearby and Visit a Family History Library. (When conditions allow reopening). Get Support, Send Messages and view responses to your submitted messages in My Cases, Live Chat, or Call Us.
- **Community:** Get help from the community. Ask Questions. Join a Group for professional help and get answers to your questions.
- **Helper Resources:** Find the What's New at Family Search Blog, and other useful tools for Family History consultants.



### Footer at the bottom of each page

[About](#) [Volunteer](#) [Blog](#) [Site Map](#) [DNA](#) [Solutions Gallery](#)

[FEEDBACK](#) [COOKIE PREFERENCES](#) [ENGLISH](#)

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THE CHURCH OF  
JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Access Information About FamilySearch, Volunteer opportunities, the Blog, Solutions Gallery, Site Map, DNA, Feedback, Cookie Preferences, and preferred Language.

Tips: If you ever get lost while on FamilySearch.org, click the FamilySearch logo and it will return you to the home page.

Tip: Click on **Recents** on the Person View or the Tree View to see the last 50 people you have viewed. Your name will always be at the top of the list.

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